

### Preparing Tomorrow's Workforce Today









"I have gained confidence in my work abilities, achieved high goals, developed new skills that I can use in and out of a professional work environment, and made important connections."

- William, intern at Medtronic and Boston Scientific

# **Preparing Tomorrow's Workforce**



# **TODAY**

Young people in Minneapolis today are the most valuable generation we've ever raised. They speak over 100 languages, cross cultural barriers every single day, and are the future of our workforce and our prosperity. Very soon these young people will be running our companies, civic organizations and nonprofits.

Since 2004, the Twin Cities business community has been preparing our talented future workforce through the City of Minneapolis **STEP-UP** jobs program, a nationally-recognized model for youth workforce development and mentoring. **STEP-UP** has provided meaningful internships for thousands of young people, yielding tremendous benefits for companies and our regional economy.

**STEP-UP** provides interns with training and job experience that prepares them for vital careers. And through these amazing young people, **STEP-UP** also offers their employers connections to the entire world. Collectively we're empowering a whole generation that will move our region to places we can't even imagine.

Join us in hiring a **STEP-UP** intern today. Help change our community's future one young person at a time, creating hope, skills and a dedicated future workforce that will continue to make our great city thrive.





**STEP-UP Co-Chairs** 

R.T. Rybak, Mayor of Minneapolis Richard Davis, US Bank Chair, CEO and President



**STEP-UP** is the City of Minneapolis jobs program for youth ages 14-21. One of the country's premiere youth employment programs, **STEP-UP** recruits, trains and places low-income young people in jobs with a wide range of Twin Cities businesses, nonprofits and public agencies. **STEP-UP** serves populations that face the greatest barriers to employment, particularly low income young people and youth of color. Over 90% of interns are youth of color and more than a third are from recent immigrant families.

**STEP-UP** helps interns explore diverse career interests, gain valuable on-the-job skills, make strong professional connections and prepare for meaningful careers. The program is managed in partnership with AchieveMpls and the Minneapolis Workforce Centers.

**STEP-UP** offers three program options based on age, experience and job training needs:



These specialized work and training opportunities serve targeted populations, including recent immigrants and young people with special needs. **STEP-UP Explore** interns (ages 14-21) work in nonprofit organizations and schools.



**STEP-UP Discover** provides foundational, entry-level jobs for youth with limited work experience. It is designed to develop skills and explore interests in preparation for future positions with **STEP-UP Achieve**. Interns (ages 14-21) work in nonprofit organizations.



This program offers career-oriented jobs for the most prepared interns who are seeking a professional experience and more challenging opportunities. Youth (ages 16-21) work in private sector businesses, public agencies and nonprofits. The program is led by AchieveMpls.

"My favorite part of **STEP-UP** is the ability to introduce a student to our business, inspire them to attend college and pursue bigger dreams, and create a potential future employee, perhaps even for our company."

- Jennifer Kelley, U.S. Bank

# **Benefits for Your Company**



**STEP-UP** not only changes young lives but can also help your business in countless ways. Interns can increase your organization's productivity, energy and diversity, providing rich payback for your investments of time and training. **STEP-UP** supervisors overwhelmingly report that their intern made a valuable contribution to their workplace.

#### **Hiring STEP-UP interns can:**

- Bring fresh ideas, energy and creativity to your workplace
- Increase diversity in your company and industry
- Deliver extra help for office projects at minimal cost
- Provide opportunities for employee growth through the experience of supervising interns
- Offer the satisfaction of transforming a young life and giving back to our community

"Google for Entrepreneurs partners with **STEP-UP** to provide training that helps interns effectively leverage technology and entrepreneurial skills in their internships and beyond. We're excited to collaborate with such a strong program that directly prepares youth to be strong contributors to the future global workforce."

- Mary Grove, Director of Global Entrepreneurship Outreach, Google

# **Benefits for Young People**

**STEP-UP** benefits for young people are tremendous, and the impact on career and college preparation can last years after the internship ends. Many keep in touch with their supervisors throughout college and use them as references to help find a job in the same industry.

#### **Through STEP-UP, interns:**

- Build vital 21st century professional skills in workplace communications, accountability, collaboration and problem-solving
- Take the first solid steps toward exploring future careers
- Develop a network of adult professionals to support them in achieving their goals
- Gain the knowledge, skills, social capital and confidence necessary to help propel them toward their educational and professional goals
- Earn up to \$2,000 in wages, representing a significant contribution to low-income families



"STEP-UP gives teens an opportunity to earn their own money, and even more it gives them a sense of accomplishment. At 18, I have worked in a law firm, an investment bank and an accounting firm. My resume is beautiful! I have new connections in many business fields. At my first internship, I received a scholarship that covers part of my college tuition.

STEP-UP has helped me reach many dreams."

 Pa Nhia, Intern at Nilan Johnson Lewis, Piper Jaffray, and Lurie Besikoff Lapidus & Co.



### **Career-Oriented Internships**

**STEP-UP Achieve** serves youth ages 16-21 who are seeking challenging opportunities in private sector businesses, public agencies or nonprofits. Led by AchieveMpls, the program empowers young people to take critical steps toward meaningful careers.

Each year **STEP-UP Achieve** trains and places over 700 talented youth in paid jobs with more than 150 top employers ranging from Fortune 500 companies to small local companies in healthcare, technology, law, financial services, public service, media, outdoors/recreation and many other sectors.

**STEP-UP Achieve participants are the most prepared** of all STEP-UP interns. Interns do real work, ranging from clerical tasks to tech support, research, tutoring, events support and much more.

Interns complete work readiness training certified by the Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce that teaches workplace communication, problem solving, professional conduct, networking, resume writing, job interviews and other key skills.

**Interns are carefully matched with companies** based on their skills, interests and availability. We select interns who are a good fit for your organization and are excited to explore new careers.

**Interns and employers receive support** through worksite visits, email updates and phone support.

**STEP-UP Achieve also provides additional enrichment opportunities** for interns, including industry-specific events, career readiness resources, financial literacy training and more.

"Our STEP-UP Achieve intern was one of the best we've ever had, and as good as any upper-level college student we've ever worked with. She was intelligent, thoughtful, a fast learner and finished tasks quickly and correctly. She also participated in creative problem-solving and it was a joy to see her smiling face each day."

- Adine Thoreen, Twin Cities Public Television

## **Become a STEP-UP Achieve Employer!**

Learn how you can participate in this life-changing program. Employers pay interns \$7.25 or more per hour for two months of part-time or full-time work. You'll gain the satisfaction of mentoring young talent while enjoying great benefits for your company.

#### Some of our great STEP-UP Achieve employers

Accenture Minneapolis Public Schools

Allianz Life Insurance Co. Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce

Augustana Care Corporation Minneapolis Television Network
Bakken Museum Minnesota Children's Museum
Boston Scientific Minnesota Supreme Court

Briggs and Morgan, P.A. Minnesota Timberwolves, Minnesota Lynx

Cargill Minnesota Twins Baseball Club

Centerpoint Energy Minnetonka Moccasin

Children's Hospitals and Clinics Nemer Fieger
City of Minneapolis Nina Hale, Inc
Dunwoody College of Technology Nilan Johnson Lewis

Ebenezer Padilla CRT
Fairview Health Services Piper Jaffray

Fallon Worldwide Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi, LLP

Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare RSP Architects, Ltd.

Greater MSP Science Museum of Minnesota

HealthPartners Star Tribune
Hennepin County State of Minnesota
Hennepin County Medical Center Target Corporation

Jefferson Lines TCF National Bank Minnesota
KBEM-FM Jazz 88 Three Rivers Park District
Kraus-Anderson Construction Company
Lurie Besikof Lapidus & Co. Twin Cities Public Television

Lurie Besikof Lapidus & Co. Twin Cities Publi
M A Mortenson Company U.S. Bancorp

MacPhail Center for Music U.S. Congressman Keith Ellison

McKinsey and Co. U.S. District Court

Medtronic UCare

Meet MinneapolisUnisys CorporationMemorial Blood CentersUniversity of MinnesotaMentoring Partnership of MNUniversity of St. ThomasMetropolitan CouncilWalker Art Center

Migizi Communications Wells Fargo

Minneapolis Foundation William Mitchell College of Law

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Xcel Energy

#### For more information, contact

#### **Amy Shapiro**

STEP-UP Achieve Senior Program Associate (612) 455-1550 ashapiro@achievempls.org

www.achievempls.org/stepupachieve

# Hire a STEP-UP Intern Today!



#### **Business Employers**

To hire a **STEP-UP Achieve** intern at your business, public agency or nonprofit, contact:

#### Jeremiah Brown

STEP-UP Achieve Director (612) 455-1562 jbrown@achievempls.org

Or visit www.achievempls.org/stepupachieve

### **Nonprofit Employers**

To offer an internship at your nonprofit organization, contact:

#### Tammy Dickinson STEP-UP Director

(612) 673-5041 tammy.dickinson@minneapolismn.gov

Or visit www.minneapolismn.gov/step-up





**achieve**mpls